

November 18, 2014

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES**

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

**REPORTING CENTER SERVICES FOR YOUTH
No. RFI-HMS-501-15-RCS**

The Department of Human Services (DHS), Office of Youth Services (OYS) requests information, comments, and feedback from interested service providers, professionals, and/or concerned individuals that will assist the OYS in developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure Reporting Center Services for youth.

Description of the Service:

Proposed Reporting Center Services (RCS) is targeted for youth who are involved with the Family Court and in need of community-based alternatives to secure detention. The goal is to provide a highly structured and well supervised program featuring group and individual activities for youth during high risk time periods when recidivism may occur, hold youth accountable for their behavior, and assist youth to increase positive, pro-social competencies. The service delivery approach shall include the youth's family, whenever possible, in supporting the youth's participation in activities that increase protective factors and decrease risk factors in various domains of the youth's life. Service components shall be provided in a manner that addresses the differing ethnic, racial and gender-specific needs of youth.

The following descriptions of services are proposed:

- **Time Period for Services:** Short-term (up to 6 weeks), after-school to early evening hours; weekend activities.
- **Individual Counseling and Support:** Structured sessions and unstructured time periods to explore identified areas and issues that are affecting youth's functioning, and opportunities to increase youth's social-emotional well-being.
- **Life Skills Training:** Social skills and competencies building activities that emphasize experiential, real-life scenarios, and an evidence-based cognitive-behavioral curriculum.
- **Substance Abuse Services:** Educational activities to promote awareness, understanding of individual/peers/family dynamics affecting substance usage and abuse, and development of relapse prevention plan.
- **Family Strengthening and Parenting Education:** Activities that promote family bonding, increased communication, and awareness of roles and dynamics of family functioning. Group classes to increase knowledge, skills, and learning of effective parenting strategies and approaches.
- **Cultural Activities:** Opportunities to experience and practice cultural practices that promote identity, understanding, and appreciation.
- **Educational Support:** Activities such as tutoring that promote academic improvement, coursework completion and high school graduation to prepare youth for higher level academic and/or vocational education.
- **Community Service and Service Learning:** Activities to engage youth and provide them with significant roles in planning and implementing activities, as well as opportunities to contribute to the organization and the community.
- **Mentoring and Intergenerational:** Provide youth with opportunities to connect with and be involved with adults in meaningful interactions and quality relationships that are consistent and that provide approval for pro-social behaviors and sanctions for antisocial behaviors.

- **Arts and Humanities:** Activities that enhance learning and creative opportunities through drama, storytelling, poetry writing, and music.
- **Sports, Fitness and Health:** Activities that improve physical health, self-concept, athletic and scholastic competence, and physical appearance; encourage working as a team; provide nutrition exploration; develop resistance skills; and discuss contraceptive practices/abstinence

Geographic Coverage of Services: Proposed RCS to be provided in various districts – islands of Kauai, Oahu (Leeward, Honolulu, Windward, and Central), Maui (North, West, South, and Central), and Hawaii (West and East). Final service array may not be offered in each circuit, and on each island.

Deadline for Response: Written comments, suggestions, and other feedback for consideration in the scope of work and RFP requirements are requested by fax, mail or email by November 25, 2014.

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NOTE: Participation in this RFI process is optional and is not required in order to respond to any subsequent procurement by the OYS. Neither the OYS nor any interested party responding to this RFI has any obligation under the RFI. The OYS may engage in further informal discussions to gather additional information and recommendations to assist in developing the RFP. Please call Merton Chinen at (808) 587-5712 with questions regarding this RFI.